

Please add new claims 24-27 as follows:

24. (New) A method of supporting a slider/magnetic recording (MR) head in a disc drive, comprising:

providing a head gimbal assembly (HGA) comprising:

a suspension;

a head interconnect circuit comprising a conductive material; and

a slider scale package comprising a flex circuit and at least one interconnect pad secured to the flex circuit;

supporting the slider/MR head with the suspension;

attaching the head interconnect circuit to the suspension and positioning the head interconnect circuit adjacent the suspension; and

electrically coupling the slider/MR head to the head interconnect circuit with the flex circuit which converts the slider/MR head into the slider package, the at least one interconnect pad of the flex circuit being electrically bonded to a back of the slider/MR head and the flex circuit further being electrically bonded to the conductive material of the head interconnect circuit.

25. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the flex circuit further includes a conductive material and the slider/MR head includes at least one bond pad, and the conductive material of the flex circuit is electrically connected to the at least one interconnect pad to the at least one bond pad of the slider/MR head.

26. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein the flex circuit includes first, second, third, and fourth interconnect pads, and the slider/MR head includes first, second, third, and fourth bond pads.

27. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein the first, second, third, and fourth interconnect pads are arranged such that the polarities of the bond pads of the slider/MR head match with polarities from the head interconnect circuit.